

The Honorable Broughton Miller Earnest (Ret.) is a retired Circuit Court Judge in “recall status” sitting in various Circuit Courts throughout the Eastern Shore. In November 2008, he was elected to a 15-year term as the Circuit Court Judge for Talbot County. Judge Earnest was the Managing partner - DLA Piper office, Easton, Maryland from 2007 – 1991. From 1973 – 1991, he was the President of the firm of Earnest & Cowdrey, P.A., Easton, Maryland. He served as Deputy State’s Attorney for Talbot County, part time from 1973 – 1975 and as Assistant U.S. Attorney in Washington, D.C. from 1973 – 1968. During his career as an attorney, Judge Earnest participated in over 100 federal and 100 state jury trials in Maryland, D.C., Virginia, Delaware, Massachusetts and California and Florida, as well as approximately 35 appeals in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fourth Circuit, and the District of Columbia. Judge Earnest has received numerous professional honors including: Fellow, Maryland Bar Foundation, Maryland Super Lawyer (top 5%) in the field of general litigation, Martindale Hubbell Rating of AV before being appointed to the bench, and Caliber awards in 2009 and 2015 by the Mid-Shore Mental Health Systems. Judge Earnest has participated in the Judicial Nominating Commission for Maryland. He was appointed by Chief Judge Bell to the Specialty Courts Committee and appointed by Chief Judge Barbera to Specialty Courts Committee and Human Trafficking Committee. He also continues to serve on the Board of Directors Mid-Shore Community Mediation, since 2015. Judge Earnest received a LLB from the University of Virginia in 1968, was on the Editorial Board of the Virginia Journal of International Law, and earned a B.A. from Washington & Lee University in 1965 where he was on the Dean’s List. Judge Earnest served in the United States Marine Corps Reserve from 1962- 1968, at which time he received an honorable discharge.